

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
FLORENCE DIVISION

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|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, |) | CRIMINAL NO.: 4:17-cr-00697-RBH |
| |) | |
| Plaintiff, |) | |
| |) | |
| vs. |) | |
| |) | |
| BRANDON EMANUEL LEE, |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |

PRELIMINARY ORDER OF FORFEITURE AS TO
BRANDON EMANUEL LEE

This matter is before the court on the motion of the United States for a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture as to Defendant Brandon Emanuel Lee (“Lee”, “Defendant”), based upon the following:

1. On July 25, 2017, an Indictment was filed charging Lee with drug trafficking, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841 and firearm offenses, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 922(g) and 924(c).

2. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(a), the Indictment contained a notice of forfeiture providing that upon Lee’s conviction, certain properties enumerated therein, or equivalent substitute assets, would be subject to forfeiture to the United States. As specified therein, such assets include, but are not limited to the following:

A. Firearms/Ammunition:

1. Astra .357 revolver (Serial number R178634)
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021946

2. Glock Model 22 .40 (Serial number LGS289)
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021945
3. Glock Model 19 9mm (Serial number UZN326)
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021945
4. Miscellaneous rounds of .357 Tullammo ammunition
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021947
5. Miscellaneous rounds of .38 Winchester
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021948

3. On November 21, 2017, Lee pled guilty pursuant to a written plea agreement to Count 1 of the Indictment which charged possession with intent to distribute a quantity of marijuana and a quantity of methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1) and agreed to voluntarily abandon all right, title, interest and claim in the firearms and ammunition.

4. Based upon Defendant's conviction, the court has determined that the property described above is subject to forfeiture, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 924(d), 21 U.S.C. §§ 853 and 881, and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

5. The court has determined that the government has established the requisite nexus between the said property subject to forfeiture and the offense for which Lee has been convicted; therefore, the United States is entitled to a preliminary order of forfeiture, subject to the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 853 governing third party rights.

Accordingly, it is hereby **ORDERED**,

1. The following property is hereby forfeited to the United States of America, along with all right, title, and interest of the Defendant, Brandon Emmanuel Lee, in and to such property:

A. Firearms/Ammunition:

1. Astra .357 revolver (Serial number R178634)
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021946
2. Glock Model 22 .40 (Serial number LGS289)
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021945
3. Glock Model 19 9mm (Serial number UZN326)
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021945
4. Miscellaneous rounds of .357 Tulaammo ammunition
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021947
5. Miscellaneous rounds of .38 Winchester
Asset ID: 17-ATF-021948

2. Upon entry of the criminal judgment, this order becomes final as to Lee, and shall be made a part of his sentence and included in the criminal judgment.

3. The United States shall publish notice of this Order and its intent to dispose of the property in such manner as the Attorney General may direct. The United States may also, to the extent practicable, provide written notice to any person known to have an alleged interest in the said property.

4. Upon entry of this Order, the United States is authorized to seize the above-described forfeited property as directed by the United States Attorney's Office and to commence proceedings that comply with statutes governing third party rights.

5. Any person, other than the named Defendant, asserting a legal interest in the subject property may, within thirty days of the final publication of notice or receipt of notice, whichever is earlier, petition the court for a hearing without a jury to adjudicate the validity of his alleged interest in the subject property and for an amendment of the order of forfeiture, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(6) and Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(c).

6. Any petition filed by a third party asserting an interest in the above-described property shall be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury and shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title, or interest in the subject property, the time and circumstances of the petitioner's acquisition of the right, title or interest in such property, and additional facts supporting the petitioner's claim and the relief sought.

7. After the disposition of any motion filed under Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(c)(1)(A) and before a hearing on the petition, discovery may be conducted in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure upon a showing that such discovery is necessary or desirable to resolve factual issues.

8. The United States shall have clear title to the property following the court's determination of all third party interests, or, if no petitions are filed, following the expiration of the period provided in 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(2) for the filing of third party petitions.

9. The court shall retain jurisdiction to resolve disputes which may arise and to enforce and amend this Order as necessary, pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(e).

10. The Clerk, U.S. District Court, shall provide one (1) certified copy of this Order to the United States Attorney's Office.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

December 1, 2017
Florence, South Carolina

s/ R. Bryan Harwell
R. Bryan Harwell
United States District Judge